REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the remarks and analysis contained in the Office Action. Claim 18 is amended. New claims 19-22 are presented. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

The rejection of claims 1, 3, 5-9, 10, 12-14 and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based upon *Fujita* must be withdrawn

The *Fujita* reference does not have any indication of how to control the stiffness of its dampers based upon whether an elevator car is stationary at a landing or if it is moving. Instead, the *Fujita* reference exclusively and repeatedly indicates that the vibrations at issue in that reference are the result of an elevator car moving along guide rails. Beginning in line 1 of column 5, *Fujita* teaches that is concerned with "vibration of cage 5 which occurs in response to the windings of the guide rails 3." Every other mention of vibration detection in the *Fujita* reference pertains to movement of the cage 5 along the guide rails 3.

- "When cage 5 vibrates or rolls in response to the resonance generated by the excitement which is caused by the windings of guide rails 3, the vibrations of cage 5 are controlled." (Col. 5, ll. 3-6)
- "Accordingly, small windings and recesses, or undulations, formed on guide rails 3 are absorbed by adjusting spring 16, and the vibrations are not transmitted to cage 5." (Col. 5, ll. 15-18)
- "Accordingly, the vibration due to the rolling of cage 5." (Col. 5, ll. 32-33)
- "Vibration sensors 27...to detect each of the windings of the guide rails 3." (Col. 5, ll. 58-60)
- "When cage 5 rises and falls, vibration sensors 38 disposed on cage 5 detect the amplitude and frequency of the vibration of cage 5." (Col. 6, ll. 42-46)
- "The vibrations due to rolling of cage 5 are absorbed." (Col. 7, ll. 16-17)
- "Windings and recesses, or undulations, formed on the guide rails 3 are absorbed by adjusting spring 16, and the vibrations are not transmitted to cage 5." (Col. 7, ll. 18-21)
- "As described above, when cage 5 rolls in response to the resonance generated by the excitement which is caused by the windings of guide rails 3, the vibrations of cage 5 are controlled." (Col. 7, ll. 25-28)
- "Control of the vibrations of cage 5...the occurrence of rolling of cage 5." (Col. 7, ll. 30-33)
- "Detect the windings of guide rails 3 directly." (Col. 7, ll. 56-57)

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- "In accordance with these embodiments, direct current is controlled in response to the detected amplitude and frequency of cage 5, and the vibrations of cage 5 caused by the rolling are absorbed and reduced." (Col. 8, ll. 7-10)
- "When cage 5 rises and falls, the amplitude and the frequency of cage 5 are detected by vibration sensor 40." (Col. 8, ll. 35-36)
- "When cage 5 rolls in response to the resonance generated by the excitement which is caused by the windings of the guide rails 3, the vibrations of cage 5 are controlled." (Col. 9, ll. 4-7)

The *Fujita* reference is also concerned with "the vibration transmissibility from guide rails 3 to cage 5" (Col. 9, ll. 22-23) and providing vibration sensors in some embodiments to "detect the windings of guide rails 3 directly." (Col. 9, ll. 41-44)

It is clear that in all instances, the *Fujita* reference is concerned with vibrations occurring as a result of the elevator cage 5 moving along the guide rails 3. There is nothing within the *Fujita* reference that can be reasonably interpreted as teaching controlling the stiffness of a damper or the viscosity of a fluid based upon whether an elevator car is stationary at a landing or moving in a hoistway. There is no *prima facie* case of anticipation and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 must be withdrawn.

New Claims 19-22 are allowable.

Nothing in the Fujita reference in any way indicates that information from an elevator machine controller is used for controlling a viscosity of a fluid or a stiffness of a damper as recited in claims 19-22. All of those claims are allowable.

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Applicant respectfully submits that this case is in condition for allowance and requests a Notice of Allowance as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this Response, relative to Application Serial No. 10/574,653 is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (571) 273-8300) on November 5, 2007.

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Theresa M. Palmateer

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